

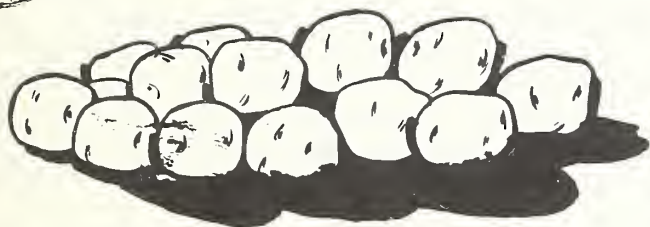
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1969 SUMMER AND FALL POTATOES



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ACREAGE-MARKETING GUIDES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • CONSUMER AND MARKETING SERVICE

April 1969 AMG 68

PREFACE

The U.S. market requirement for food potatoes is increasing but at a relatively slow rate. Typically, the annual rate of growth is 3 percent or less. However, there is no assurance that total potato use will continue to increase--it could stabilize or show a temporary decline. Nevertheless, potato growers, as a group, sometimes boost production substantially. In 1965, for example, the total crop production was up 21 percent compared with 1964. A big crop of potatoes usually means growers will receive a low average price. This was the case in 1965, when the average price declined 28 percent compared with 1964.

The total production of 1968 fall crop potatoes was 5 percent less than in 1967. As a result of a smaller production, potato prices during the winter of 1968-69 averaged much higher than the previous season.

Growers can expect the market to react favorably when potato production matches market needs. The initial effort to match potato production with market requirements should be made at planting time. The acreage-marketing guides for potatoes are recommendations to help growers match production with requirements. The guide recommendations, by seasons and for each producing area, are the estimates of acreage required which, with average yields, will produce a crop of the right volume so that growers will receive the best return for their crop.

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X 1969 ACREAGE-MARKETING GUIDES,
SUMMER AND FALL POTATOES X

The basic objective of the acreage-marketing guides program is to assist growers in their acreage planning so that the resulting production will be in balance with market requirements. The performance of every potato producer has an influence on the ultimate market situation for his commodity. Therefore, to improve prospects for a successful season, each grower should adjust his own acreage in accord with the individual State guide. For example, when it is recommended that the State's 1969 acreage of fall potatoes be decreased by 5 percent from the acreage planted in 1968, each grower of potatoes in the State should decrease his plantings by 5 percent.

I. DEMAND FOR POTATOES

Substantial rises in the Nation's income and production were reported in 1968. This was the eighth year of the long cyclical uptrend that started in 1961. The Gross National Product (GNP) rose \$71 billion to \$861 billion in 1968 or 9 percent over 1967, according to records of the U. S. Department of Commerce. Of last year's rise in current dollar GNP, about 5 percent represented an increase in physical volume, and 3 3/4 percent, in higher prices.

Food expenditures reached an annual rate of \$101.0 billion in 1968. This compared with \$94.9 billion in 1967. Food costs in 1968 accounted for 17.2 percent of total disposable personal income, a record-low share.

Consumer demand continued strong in the first quarter of 1969 because of rising wages and high employment levels. During 1969, personal consumption expenditures and business fixed investment are expected to produce an additional, but less rapid, expansion. Government spending for goods and services is expected to advance only slightly as a result of budget tightening. This latter action is designed to moderate the rise in prices.

The full effect of the 10 percent tax surcharge on incomes is expected to be felt this year. However, strength in all sectors of the economy is expected to further expand economic activity and consumer income.

Increases in population and consumer income will expand domestic markets for most farm products. Nevertheless, available and potential market supplies of potatoes will continue to be the primary factor affecting prices.

The per capita consumption of potatoes is expected to show little change compared with the recent average of about 110 pounds. Further expansion is underway in potato processing facilities both in Maine and in the West. As a result, the total quantity of processed food potatoes available to consumers likely will increase as will per capita use.

Potato acreage-marketing guides for each summer and fall potato area are shown in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1.--Potatoes, Summer and Fall Crops and Summary:
1969 Acreage Guides

Season and State	Acreage guide 1969	Percentage change from 1968	Season and State	Acreage guide 1969	Percentage change from 1968
	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Percent</u>		<u>Acres</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<u>Early Summer:</u>			<u>Fall:</u>		
Missouri	2,200	0	Maine	150,130	-3
Kansas	1,500	0	New Hampshire	1,000	0
Delaware	8,200	0	Vermont	1,500	0
Maryland	1,900	0	Massachusetts	5,600	0
Virginia			Rhode Island	5,385	-4
Eastern Shore	26,330	-6	Connecticut	5,700	0
Other	2,500	0	New York, L.I.	27,785	0
North Carolina	1,800	0	New York, Upstate	36,000	0
Alabama	5,860	-5	Pennsylvania	33,645	-9
Kentucky	3,000	0	8 Eastern-Fall	266,745	-3
Tennessee	3,700	0			
Texas	18,160	-7	Ohio	11,800	-4
California	6,400	0	Indiana	6,100	0
Total Early Summer	81,550	-4	Michigan	31,000	0
			Wisconsin	37,500	0
<u>Late Summer:</u>			Minnesota	99,525	-2
New York, L.I.	6,400	0	North Dakota	107,775	-3
New Jersey	14,000	0	South Dakota	5,140	-8
Ohio	3,500	0	Nebraska	6,865	-6
Indiana	1,100	0	8 Central-Fall	305,705	-2
Illinois	2,140	-11			
Michigan	9,520	-15	Montana	7,785	-6
Wisconsin	17,380	-1	Idaho-10 S.W. Co.	29,000	0
Minnesota	6,720	-10	Idaho-Other Co.	260,105	-3
Nebraska	2,800	0	Wyoming	3,380	-11
Iowa	2,875	-10	Colorado	30,550	-13
Maryland	700	0	Utah	7,100	0
Virginia	1,000	0	Nevada	500	0
West Virginia	4,565	-12	Washington	35,795	-14
North Carolina	900	0	Oregon-Malheur Co.	15,435	-6
Colorado	12,240	-15	Oregon-Other Co.	26,065	-15
New Mexico	3,740	-15	California	27,120	-3
Washington	19,605	-13	9 Western-Fall	442,835	-5
California	8,465	-2			
Total Late Summer	117,650	-8	Total Fall	1,015,285	-4
			Total Winter	22,200	-0
			Total Spring	118,700	-0
			Total Summer	199,200	-6
			Total Fall	1,015,285	-4
			U. S.	1,355,385	-4

**Table 2.--Potatoes, Summer and Fall Crops and Summary:
1969 Marketing Guides**

Season and State	:	Marketing guide 1969	:	Season and State	:	Marketing guide 1969
		<u>1,000 cwt.</u>				<u>1,000 cwt.</u>
<u>Early Summer:</u>				<u>Fall:</u>		
Missouri		257		Maine		35,881
Kansas		126		New Hampshire		222
Delaware		1,583		Vermont		282
Maryland		313		Massachusetts		1,053
Virginia:				Rhode Island		1,206
Eastern Shore		3,686		Connecticut		1,283
Other		238		New York, Long Island		7,280
North Carolina		202		New York, Upstate		7,956
Kentucky		204		Pennsylvania		7,402
Tennessee		314		8 Eastern Fall		62,565
Alabama		762				
Texas		3,305		Ohio		2,395
California		<u>2,253</u>		Indiana		1,574
Total Early Summer		13,243		Michigan		6,293
				Wisconsin		8,550
<u>Late Summer:</u>				Minnesota		11,545
New York, Long Island		1,600		North Dakota		14,442
New Jersey		3,612		South Dakota		627
Ohio		630		Nebraska		<u>1,613</u>
Indiana		174		8 Central-Fall		47,039
Illinois		362				
Michigan		1,561		Montana		1,370
Wisconsin		3,633		Idaho - 10 S. W. Co.		8,845
Minnesota		1,566		Idaho - Other Co.		52,801
Iowa		503		Wyoming		558
Nebraska		437		Colorado		8,309
Maryland		94		Utah		1,228
Virginia		80		Nevada		138
West Virginia		324		Washington		13,781
North Carolina		117		Oregon Malheur Co.		4,152
Colorado		2,717		Oregon-Other Co.		6,777
New Mexico		684		California		<u>8,137</u>
Washington		7,097		9 Western-Fall		106,096
California		<u>2,979</u>				
Total Late Summer		28,170		<u>Total Fall</u>		<u>215,700</u>
				Total Winter		4,126
				Total Spring		24,765
				Total Summer		41,413
				<u>Total Fall</u>		<u>215,700</u>
				U. S.		<u>286,004</u>

II. SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Early Summer--Virginia, Texas, California and Delaware, in that order, are the major sources of early summer potatoes. About 5 percent of the annual crop is harvested in this season. Average yield per acre for their crop has been trending upward. But total acreage and production in the recent 3 seasons have shown little change (Figure 1).

Most of the early summer crop is sold in table market outlets. Also, a significant quantity is also sold to potato chippers. About 5 percent is used on farms where grown for food. Some of the early summer crop is exported to Canada.

Prices received by farmers for early summer potatoes have shown sharp changes in successive years. Early summer prices respond not only to changes in early summer production, but also to the overlap from late spring marketings, as well as timing of harvest in late summer areas.

The 1969 acreage guide for the early summer crop is a total planted acreage 4 percent less than in 1968. Such an acreage, with an average yield, will result in a production 4 percent less than in 1968.

Late Summer--Washington, California, Colorado, Wisconsin, New Jersey, Minnesota and Long Island are major sources for late summer potatoes. About 10 percent of the annual crop is harvested in this season.

The total acreage planted for late summer harvest has shown a moderate downward trend, with a record-low total reported in 1968. A majority of the late summer States reduced acreage. The average yield per acre for the late summer season has moved upward sharply, and the 1968 average yield was a seasonal record. The total production in 1968 was up moderately compared with 1967 (Figure 2).

Most of the late summer crop is sold in table market outlets and to potato chippers. Some of the crop is used by intrastate food processors. A small quantity is used for food in potato farm households. And less than one percent is used for seed. Feed, shrinkage and loss combined account for approximately 5 percent of the total output.

Prices received for late summer potatoes respond significantly to timing of late summer harvest in major producing areas, as well as to progress of crop development in fall crop areas. Short-term price increases may result in the late summer when harvest is interrupted or delayed by rain.

The 1969 acreage guide for the late summer crop is a total planted acreage 8 percent less than in 1969. Such an acreage, with average yield per acre, will result in a production 7 percent less than in 1968.

EARLY SUMMER POTATOES

Production and Price

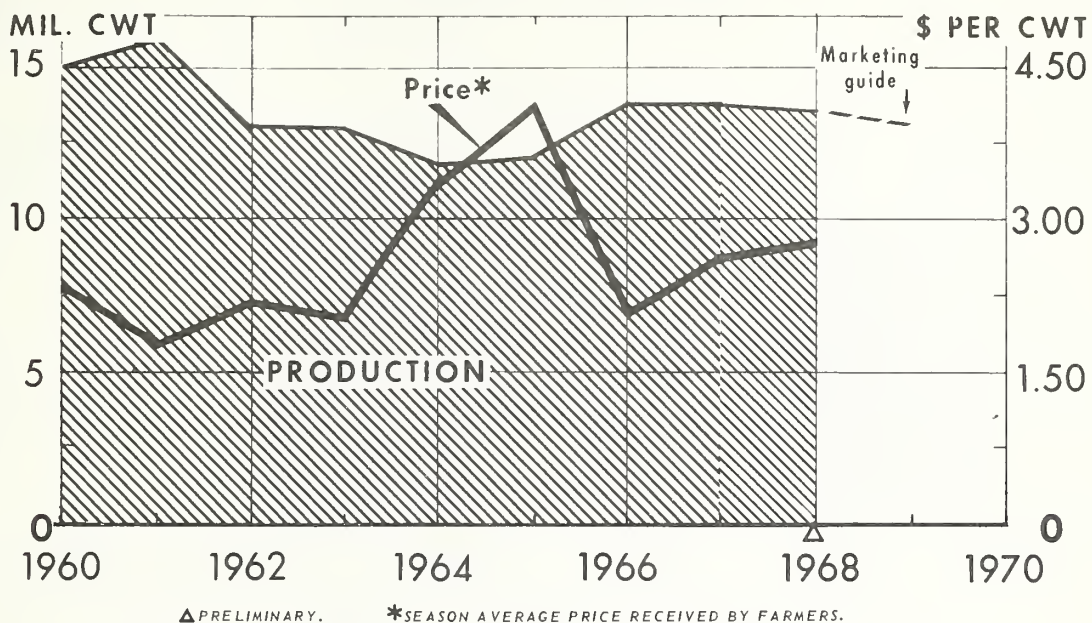


Figure 1

LATE SUMMER POTATOES

Production and Price

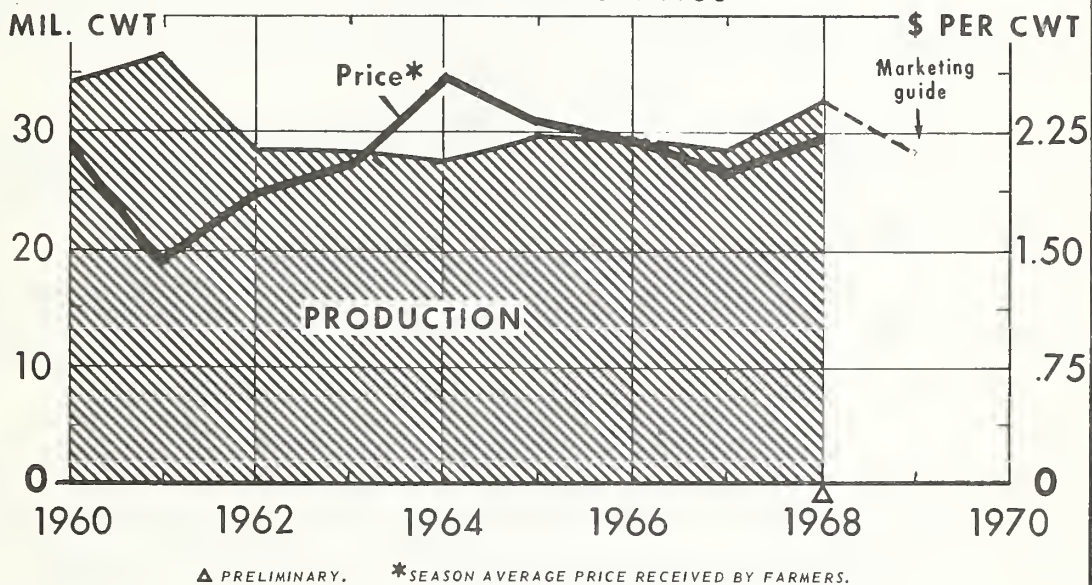


Figure 2

FALL POTATOES

Production and Price

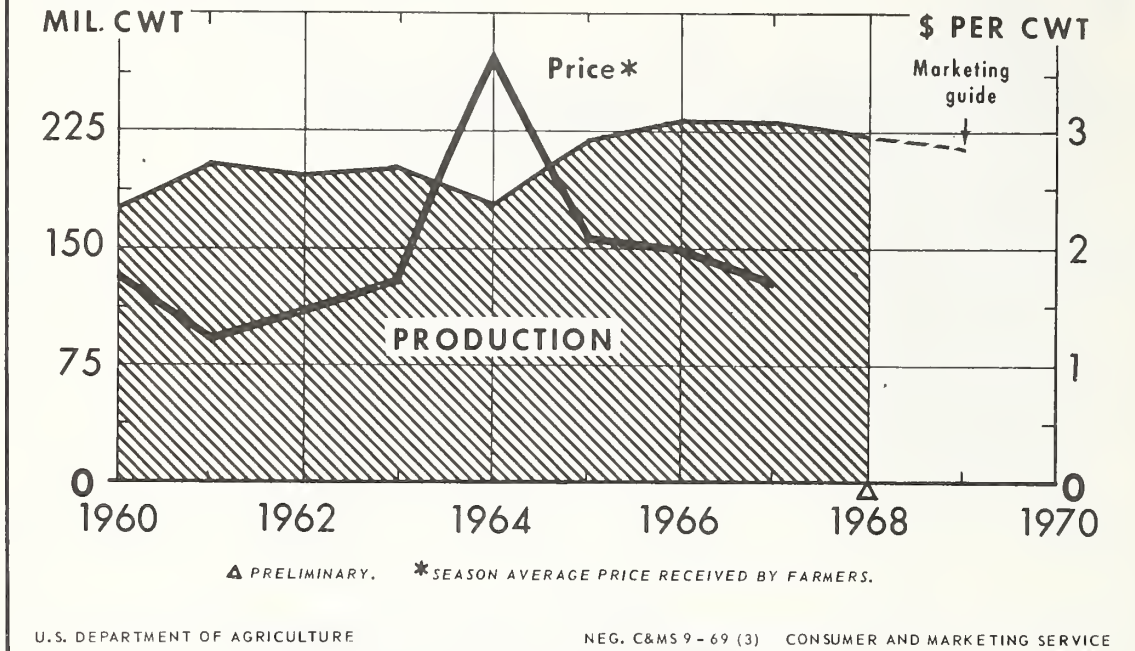


Figure 3

Fall--Idaho, Maine, Washington, North Dakota, New York, Minnesota, and California, in that order, were the major sources of 1968 fall crop potatoes. About three-fourths of the annual crop is harvested in the fall. Much of the crop is stored and marketed during the subsequent winter and spring.

For several years, the total plantings of fall potatoes have not varied greatly holding close to 1.1 million acres. Since 1965, yield per acre has ranged from 212 to 214 hundredweight. Total production in 1968 was 220 million hundredweight, 5 percent below the 1967 record (Figure 3).

The fall potato crop is utilized in the fresh table markets and potato chip outlets, as well as the freezer and dehydrator, and certified seed outlets. Both fresh and processed potatoes move into foreign markets. But foreign trade accounts for only a small amount of the domestic supply (see page 34).

Prices received for fall crop potatoes respond to the general level of varietal production, and resulting marketable quantities. In addition, prices reflect the relative scarcity or plentifulness of tubers of certain diameter (for round varieties) or weight (for long varieties). For some potatoes used for food processing, prices are determined in pre-season contractual agreements.

The 1969 total guide for fall crop potatoes is a planted acreage 4 percent less than in 1968. Such an acreage, with average yields, will result in a total production 2 percent less than in 1968.

III. REGIONAL FALL CROPS

The 8 eastern fall States were the source of 29 percent of the 1968 fall crop. Maine, with 58 percent of the total regional crop, continued to dominate in eastern potato production (Figure 4). The eastern crop consists mostly of round white varieties, but the Russet Burbank variety is grown in commercial volume in Maine and on Long Island.

In 1968, 22 percent of the total fall crop was produced in the 8 central fall States. The Red River Valley area of Minnesota and North Dakota produced 57 percent of the crop in the central region (Figure 5). The Red River Valley and Wisconsin produce both round whites and round red varieties with the latter State also producing a significant quantity of Russet Burbanks. Production in other central States consists mostly of round white varieties.

As indicated above, the eastern and central producing regions each has a dominant potato area. In the western fall region, Idaho dominates, and in 1968, accounted for 55 percent of the total regional crop (Figure 6). Washington's fall potato production has doubled over the past several years, and in 1968 the State accounted for 15 percent of the western fall crop.

For the regional fall crops, the 1969 marketing guide recommendations are 2 percent less production in the East compared with 1968, 3 percent less in the Central States, and 1 percent less in the West. Additional details on the regional crops are on page 14.

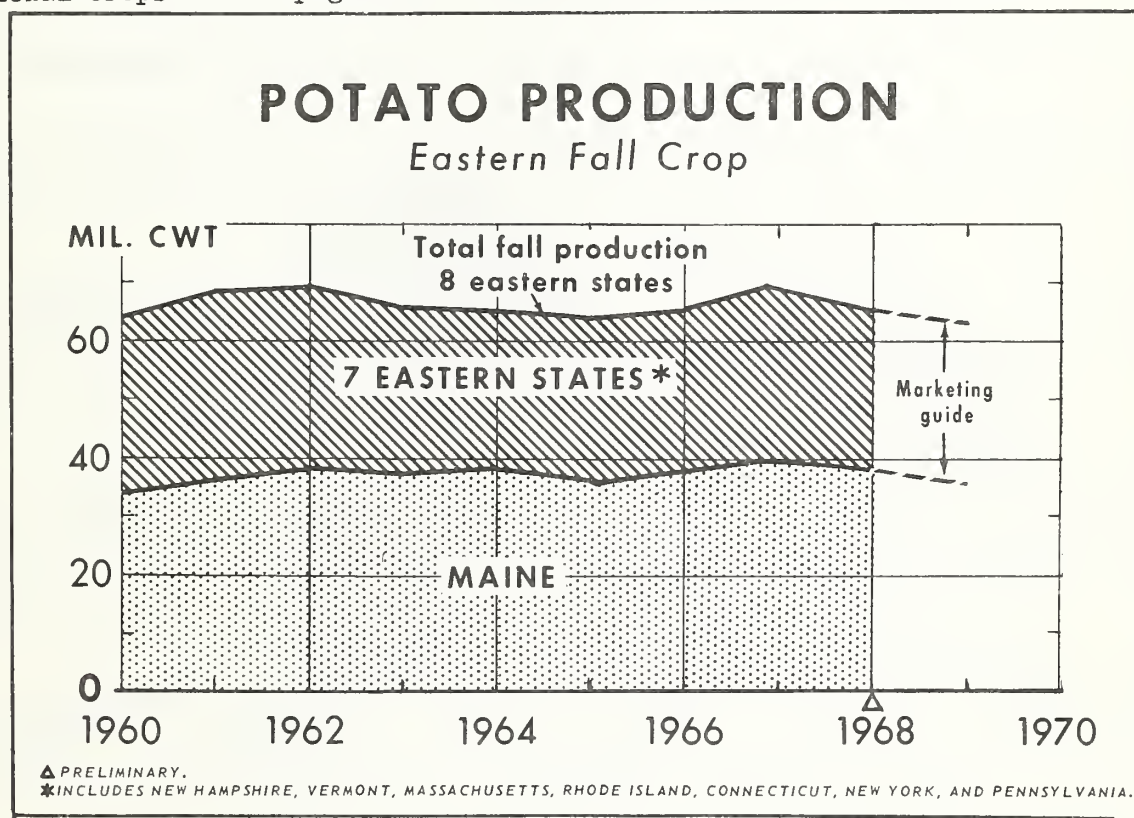


Figure 4

POTATO PRODUCTION

Central Fall Crop

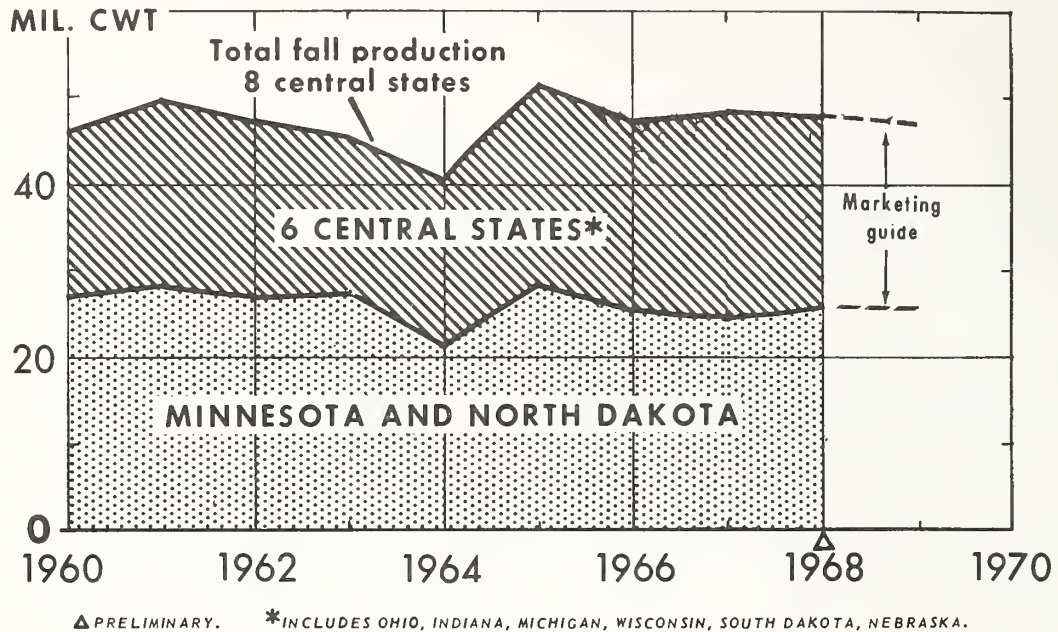


Figure 5

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Western Fall Crop

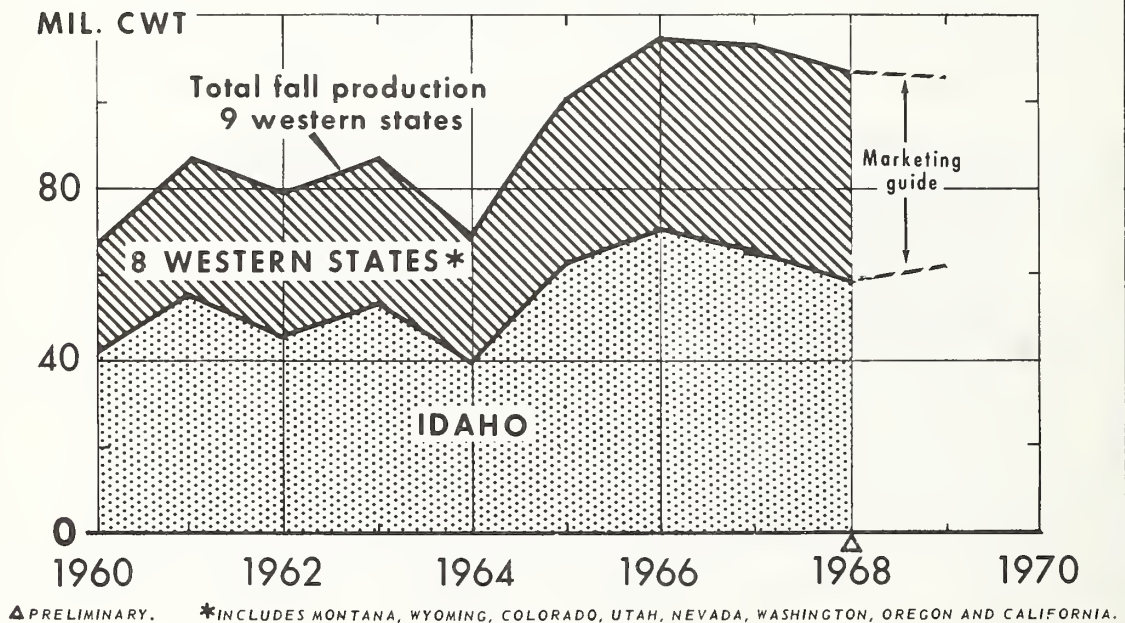


Figure 6

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. C&MS 14-69 (3) CONSUMER AND MARKETING SERVICE

IV. REVIEW OF 1968 POTATO CROP

Winter--The winter potato production in 1968 was quite small. In Florida, both total plantings and yields were down, and total production was moderately below 1967. In California, acreage was reduced and average yield was sharply below 1967. As a result, California's 1968 winter potato output was almost one-third below 1967. Although there was a surplus of storage potatoes from the 1967 fall crop harvest, the 1968 winter production matched market needs. Prices received for 1968 winter potatoes were well above average.

Early Spring--This crop is grown largely in Florida where a high yield in 1968 offset a slight reduction in plantings. In 1968, Florida's production was 4.7 million hundredweight, almost double the weather-shortened 1967 total of 2.6 million. Also, there is a small acreage and production during this season in Texas.

A relatively heavy carryover of storage potatoes plus adequate shipments from late spring areas kept 1968 early spring potato prices in check. Although showing a substantial seasonal decline, the Florida 1968 average spring price was moderate, and close to the year - earlier average.

Late Spring--The 1968 total spring potato acreage was reduced sharply. Much of the decrease was in California, but Arizona, Alabama and North Carolina also reported smaller plantings. Average yield in 1968 was high, particularly in California where 70 percent of the crop originated. Total late spring production in 1968 was 20.5 million hundredweight compared with the relatively large 1967 output of 23.7 million.

The 1968 late spring production was in line with market needs. The balance in supply combined with good harvest timing resulted in a firm market for late spring potatoes. For example, the U. S. average price received by farmers advanced from \$1.90 in April 1968 to \$2.69 in June.

Early Summer--The total early summer production in 1968 was 13.7 million hundredweight, slightly less than in 1967. Production on the Eastern Shore of Virginia was quite large in 1968, and was 8 percent above 1967. In Texas, output was 6 percent higher. However, the 1968 crops in both Delaware and California were moderately less than in 1967.

Supplies on the Eastern Shore of Virginia peaked in early July, but shipments continued into the late summer. Volume from the spring crop in California was considerable during July. These competing supplies combined with initial shipments from early fields in late summer areas depressed potato prices during the early summer. For example, the 1968 season average price for Virginia potatoes was \$2.52 per hundredweight compared with \$3.23 in 1967.

Late Summer--Late summer production in 1968 was 30.3 million hundredweight, 6 percent more than in 1967. Due to high yields, 1968 output in Colorado and Washington was considerably more than in 1967. However, the 1968 crops in New Jersey and Wisconsin were substantially less than in the previous year.

In many major late summer areas, harvest was active by late July. With supplies available throughout most of the northern tier of States and in California, late summer prices, which averaged \$2.92 in July 1968 declined to \$1.85 - \$1.90 in August and September 1968.

In addition to table market sales, some of the western late summer supply was utilized by local processing plants. In the East and Midwest, most of the supplies moved to table market outlets with a smaller share utilized for potato chips.

Fall Crop--Heavy summer rains and high temperatures damaged the 1968 fall crop in some growing areas. However, fall weather was frost-free and favorable throughout the harvest.

The 1968 fall production was 220 million hundredweight, 5 percent less than in 1967. The 1968 crop was smaller than in 1967 in Maine, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Idaho, Colorado, Oregon and California. The crops in Minnesota, North Dakota, and Washington exceeded year-earlier levels.

Disappearance of 1968 fall crop potatoes from time of harvest to March 1, 1969, was 140 million hundredweight compared with almost 145 million in the comparable 1967-68 period. In the 1968-69 season, combined movement to fresh market and to chippers was indicated to be below the 1967-68 volume. However, a larger quantity was used in the manufacture of food products compared with a year earlier. No USDA potato diversion program was in effect for 1968 fall potatoes. Considerable quantities of 1967 fall potatoes were diverted to starch and livestock feed under the diversion program that began in January 1968.

From October 1968 through March 1969, the farm price for potatoes averaged \$2.11 per hundredweight. This compared with \$1.63 in the comparable months of 1967-68. Throughout the 1968-69 marketing year, potato supplies held in relatively good balance with market needs. As a result, there were few extreme changes in prices.

V. POTATO HIGHLIGHTS

Crop Trends and Sources--Total potato acreage has been on a level plane. The 1964-68 average was 1.43 million acres. In 1968, the combined acreage in Idaho, Maine, North Dakota, Minnesota, and California accounted for over half of the total acreage.

Potato yield increased moderately during the 1960s. The 1968 yield was a record 213 hundredweight per acre and compared with 209 in 1967. Washington's yield last year of 378 hundredweight was highest among the States.

The total potato production in 1968 was 293.4 million. The crop was down moderately compared with the 1966 record of almost 307 million hundredweight. The 1967 output was 305 million.

Prices received by farmers for 1966-68 crop potatoes averaged about \$2.00 per hundredweight. During the 1960s, prices ranged from \$1.36 to \$3.50. A change in potato production is usually accompanied by a larger change in price in the opposite direction.

The 1963-67 average farm value of potato sales was \$582 million. The 1967 total was \$502 million. In 1967, Idaho, the leading potato State, had potato sales of almost \$91 million. The farm value of potatoes in California was \$73 million, and in Maine, \$44 million.

About 75 percent of the potato crop is harvested in the fall, 15 percent in the summer, 9 percent in the spring and 1 percent in the winter. There has been an increasing concentration of the crop for fall harvest. Also, there has been an uptrend in the percentage of the crop grown in the West. The marketing season for the annual crop extends for 18-20 months.

Use and Consumption--(see Table on page 35). Monthly requirements for food use amount to 19-20 million hundredweight (fresh-weight equivalent). In 1967, total food use was 228.5 million hundredweight. This was equivalent to 75 percent of the total production. Also, 7.6 percent of the 1967 crop (23.3 million hundredweight) was used for seeding the 1968 acreage. About 4 percent of the 1967 crop (12 million hundredweight) was sold for starch and flour, 6.0 percent (19 million hundredweight) was used for livestock feed, and 7.4 percent was accounted for on-farm as shrinkage, waste and loss.

Use of fresh table potatoes has been decreasing. At the same time, use of potatoes in the manufacture of processed products has been increasing. The trends have been about offsetting and total per capita use of potatoes has been holding at about 110 pounds.

In 1967, fresh table potatoes accounted for 58 percent of total food use and processed products, 42 percent. The latter use amounted to only 14 percent in 1956.

During the 1960s, use of potatoes for frozen and dehydrated items more than doubled. In addition, the total quantity of potatoes used by chippers increased by about 50 percent, and there was a substantial gain in the amount of potatoes canned.

Table 3.--Potatoes, Fall Crop: Selected data, 1966-68 crops

Fall crop; region	Acreage		Yield		
	Planted	harvested	per	Production	Farm price
	1,000	1,000	acre	Million	
	<u>acres</u>	<u>acres</u>	<u>Cwt.</u>	<u>cwt.</u>	<u>\$ per cwt.</u>
8 Eastern States:					
1968	275.2	274.7	233	64.0	N.A.
1967	294.1	285.1	236	67.2	1.66
1966	287.7	287.7	226	65.0	2.08
8 Central States:					
1968	312.8	291.0	167	48.6	N.A.
1967	334.9	323.0	153	49.4	1.65
1966	323.5	309.8	153	47.5	2.05
9 Western States:					
1968	468.2	464.1	231	107.4	N.A.
1967	485.2	480.5	239	114.6	1.71
1966	482.5	471.5	245	115.3	1.87
U. S. Fall Crop:					
1968	1,056.2	1,029.8	214	220.0	N.A.
1967	1,114.2	1,088.6	212	231.2	1.68
1966	1,093.7	1,069.0	213	227.8	1.97

N.A. - Not available.

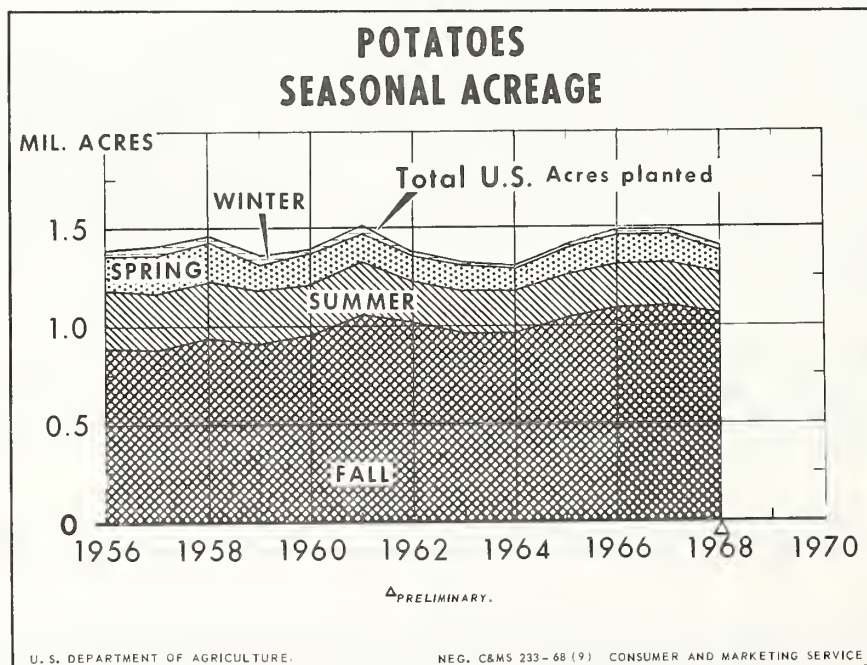


Figure 7

Table 4 .--Potatoes: Monthly average shipping point
prices, selected States, 1967-68 and 1968-69
(U.S. No. 1 or better)

Month	: Idaho :Russet Burbanks: :1967-68 1968-69:	: Colorado : Reds :1967-68 1968-69:	: Long Island : Round Whites :1967-68 1968-69:	: Michigan : Round Whites :1967-68 1968-69				
<u>\$ per hundredweight</u>								
August	2.64	3.31	2.20	2.48	2.78	2.32	2.48	1.90
September	2.61	3.42	2.21	2.44	2.20	2.60	1.96	2.08
October	2.85	3.83	2.20	2.50	2.04	2.60	1.98	2.04
November	2.94	4.08	2.10	2.28	2.28	2.68	2.20	2.36
December	2.72	4.06	1.98	2.30	1.98	2.46	2.10	2.34
January	2.68	4.64	1.88	2.44	1.90	2.44	1.90	2.46
February	2.50	4.95	1.82	2.43	1.60	2.44	1.80	2.54
March	2.50	5.16	2.07	2.33	1.50	2.52	1.64	2.66
April	3.71	----	3.08	----	----	----	----	----

VI. U. S. POTATO INDUSTRY CHARTS

Some of the trends in potato data considered in the preparation of the acreage marketing guides are presented in Figure 1 - 7. Industry trends are also presented in Figures 8 to 19, and in Figures for individual States beginning on page 23 .

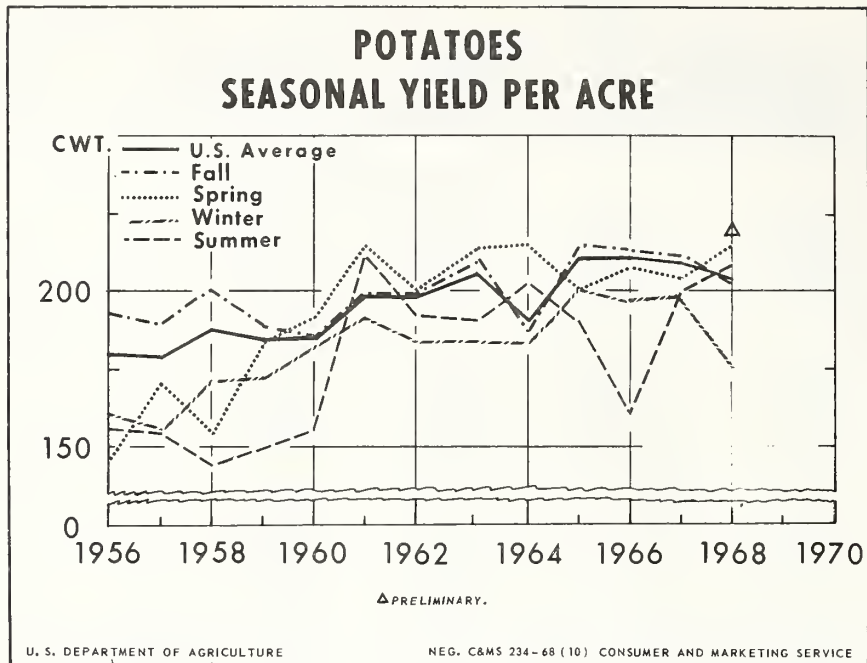


Figure 8

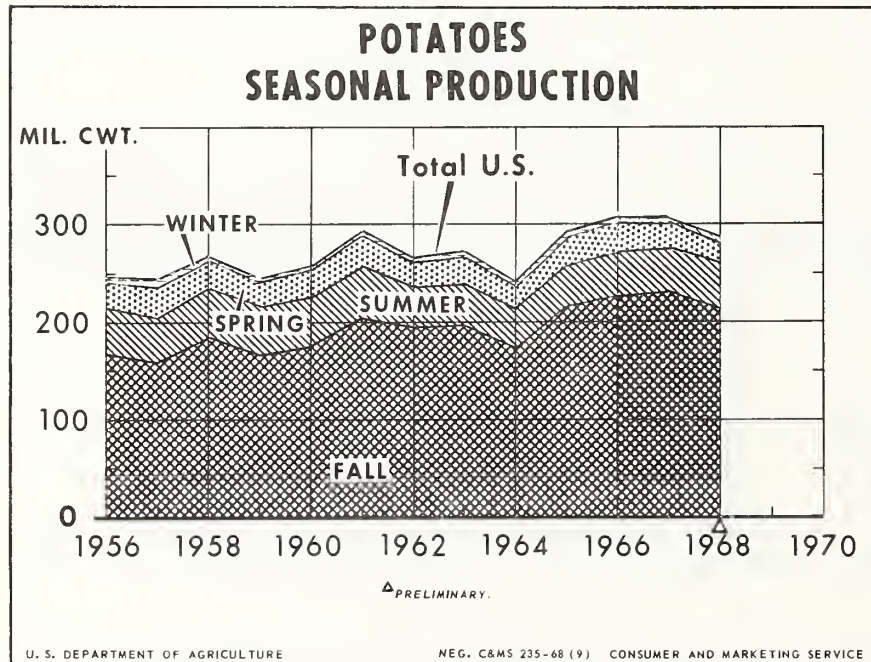


Figure 9

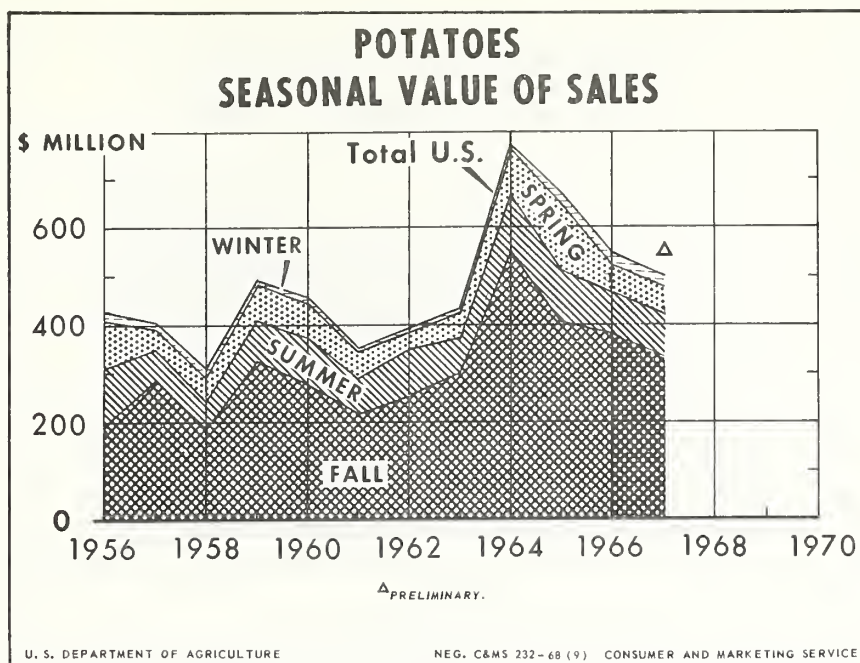


Figure 10

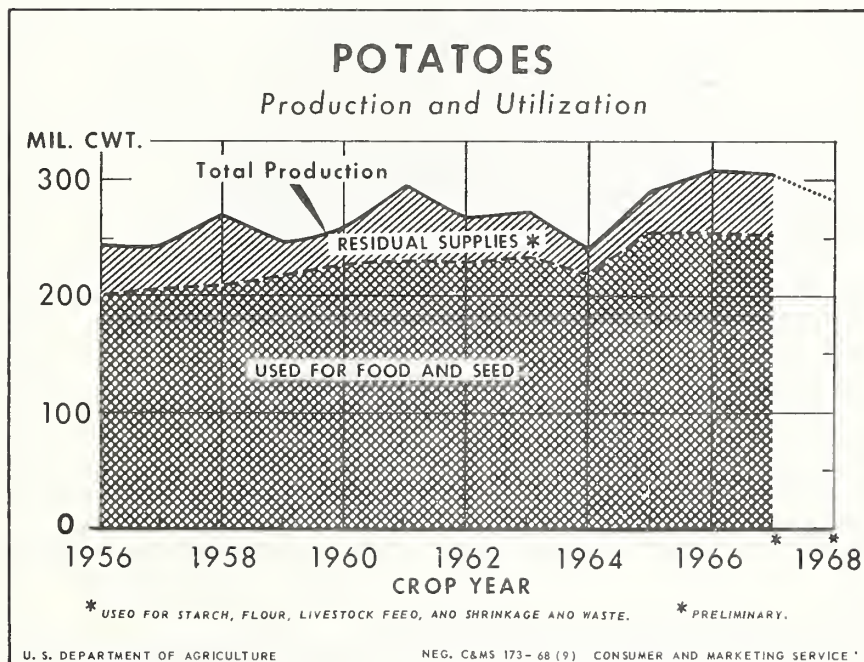


Figure 11

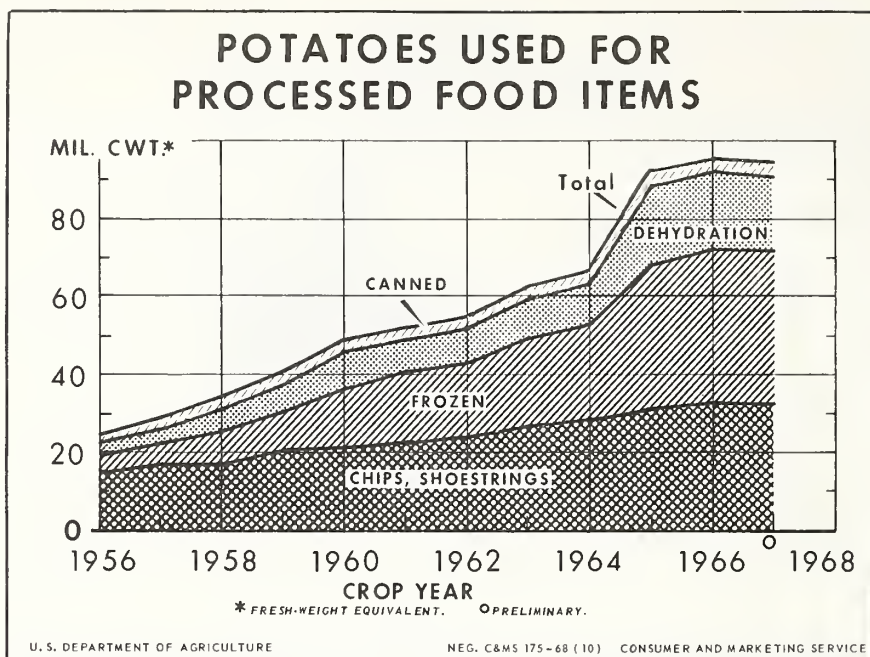


Figure 12

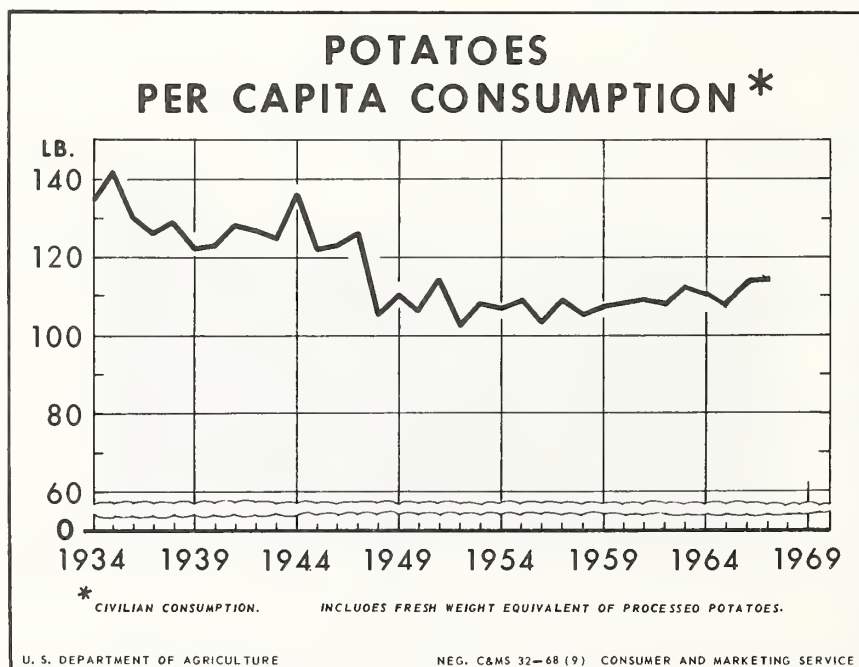


Figure 13

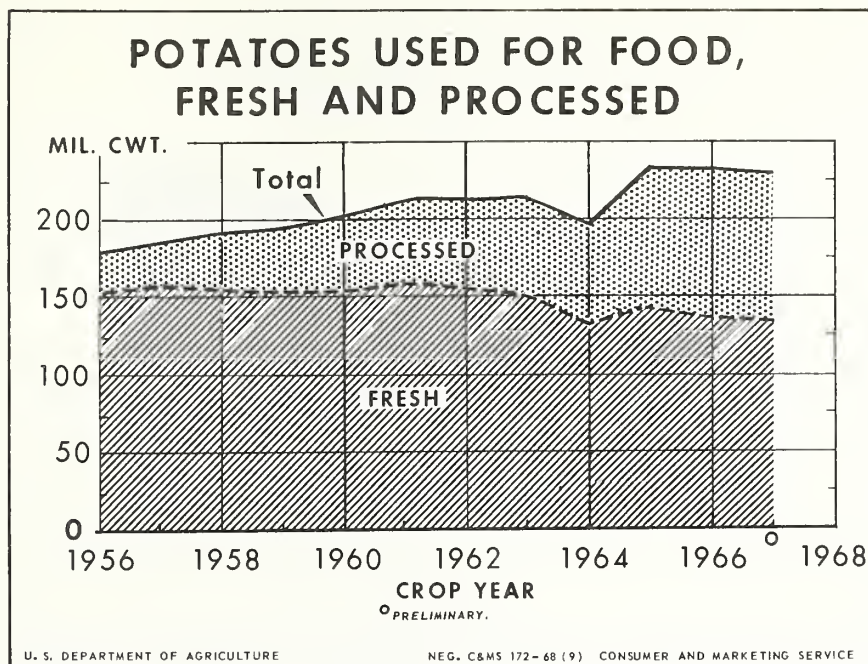


Figure 14

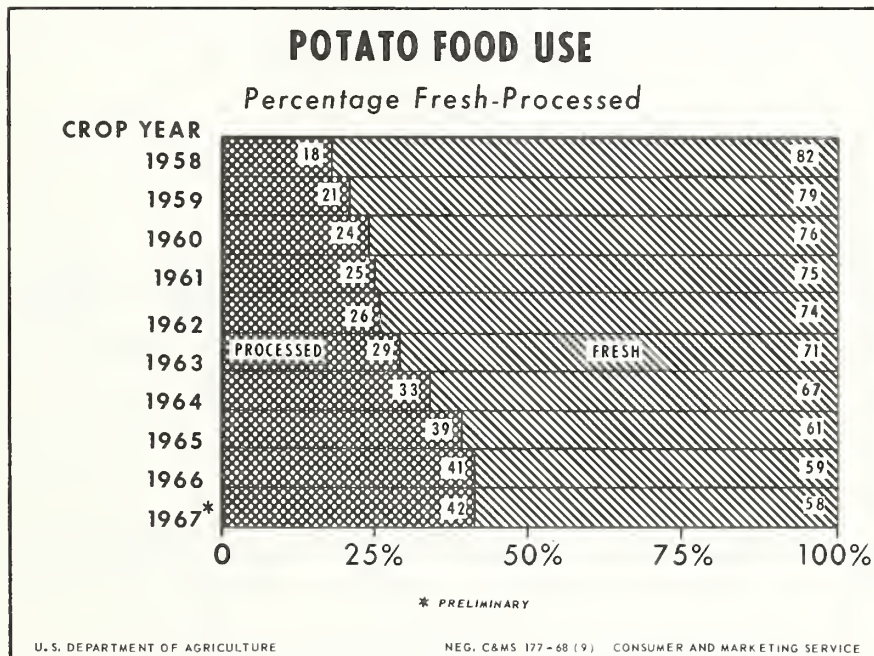


Figure 15

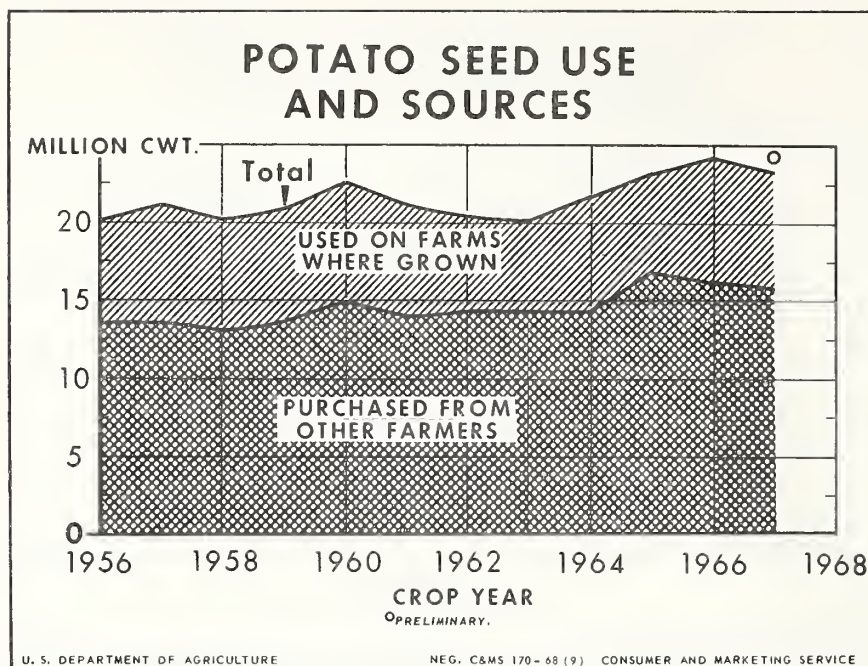


Figure 16

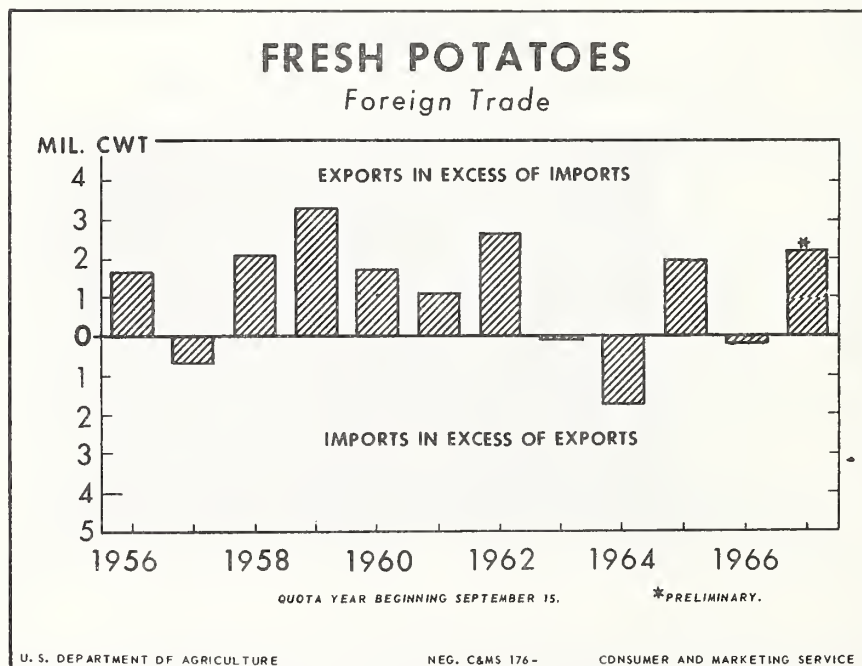


Figure 17

POTATOES

*Monthly Average Retail Price**

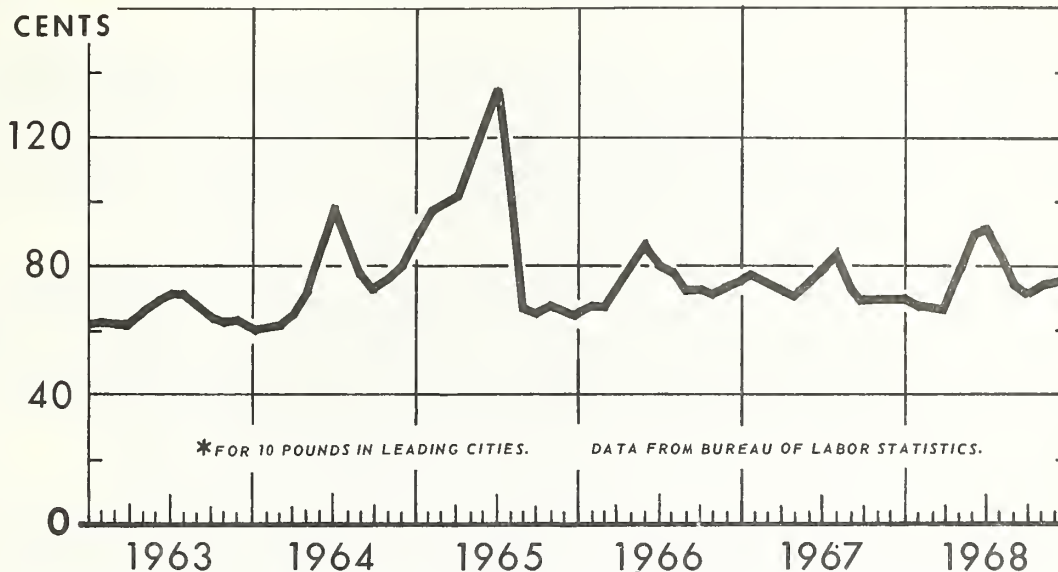


Figure 18

FROZEN FRENCH FRIED POTATOES

End-of-month Stocks in Cold Storage

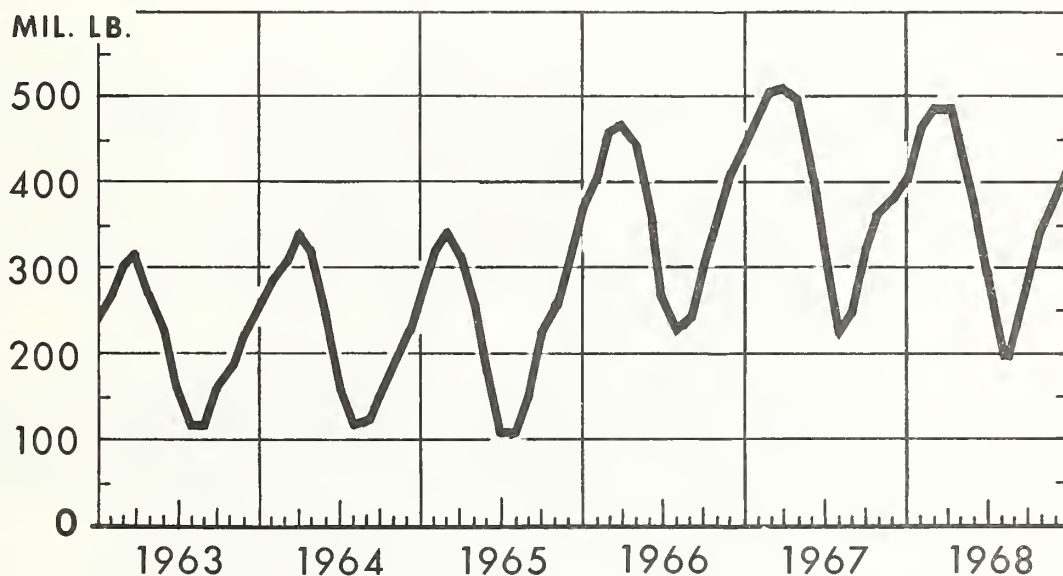


Figure 19

VII.STATE SUMMARIES

Idaho: Following the upward trend in planted acreage to a record high of 320,000 acres in 1966, there were successive reductions in Idaho acreages in 1967 and 1968. The 1968 plantings of 297,000 acres were 3 percent less than in 1967, and 7 percent less than in 1966.

The average yield per acre in 1968 was moderately below a year earlier and well below the high average in 1966. Idaho production in 1968 was 59.5 million hundredweight, 7 percent less than in 1967 and substantially smaller than the record large 1966 production (Figure 20). Nevertheless, Idaho continued as the leading State in potato production with a fifth of the 1968 total crop and 27 percent of the fall crop.

Although Idaho continues as a leading source of tablestock potatoes, about half the production is used for processed food products. Of the total 1967 crop, about 30 million hundredweight or 48 percent was processed for food. Movement to fresh market outlets accounted for a fourth of the total crop. The quantity used for starch and flour, which was only about half that in the previous season, amounted to 4 percent of 1967 production.

With a moderate production in 1968 and with continuing firm dual demand for Idaho potatoes in interstate table markets and by local food processors, Idaho potato prices increased sharply during 1968-69. Farm price in March 1969 averaged \$3.13 per hundredweight. This compared with \$1.74 in the fall of 1968, and \$1.30 in March 1968.

The 1969 planting guide for the 10 southwestern counties is an acreage equal to 1968. For Idaho "other counties", the 1969 guide is a planted acreage 3 percent less than in 1968.

Washington: The total production of potatoes in Washington, which ranks fourth among the States in output, continued to trend upward in 1968. Total plantings in 1968 of 64,000 acres were unchanged from the record high level in 1967; an increase in acreage for late summer harvest offset a slight decrease in the fall crop. Yields in both the late summer and fall seasons were above a year earlier. Late summer production in 1968 was nearly a fifth larger than in 1967, and fall production was up moderately. In 1968, total production in Washington was about a tenth more than in 1967 (Figure 21).

Records compiled by the State of Washington Potato Committee indicate that total shipments to fresh market and seed outlets in 1967-68 were slightly less than in 1966-67. Also, the 1967-68 tonnage used by dehydrators was substantially less than in the prior season, although the total for freezing was up slightly. The quantity of 1967 crop Washington potatoes used for livestock feed and starch was nearly three times as large as that from the 1966 crop.

Through late March of the 1968-69 season, cumulative shipments were more than a tenth ahead of a year earlier. Fresh market shipments were much larger, but the biggest increase occurred in the volume dehydrated. The quantity used for freezing is also up substantially. Grower prices in Washington for 1968 crop potatoes are expected to average moderately higher than in 1967.

IDAHO POTATOES

Production and Price

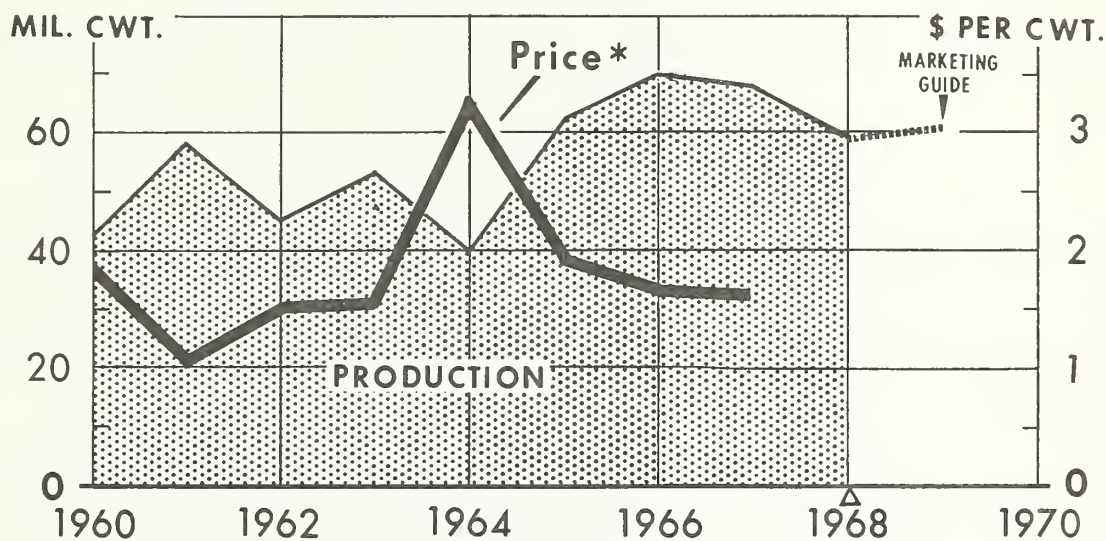


Figure 20

△ PRELIMINARY. * AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS.

WASHINGTON POTATOES

Production and Price

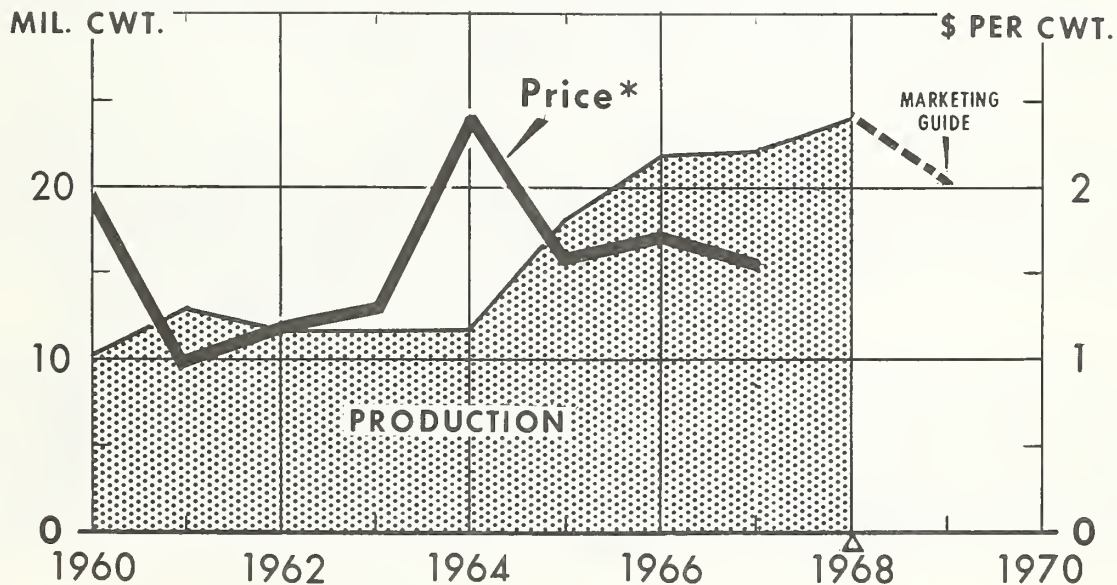


Figure 21

△ PRELIMINARY. * AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS.

VII. STATE SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

The 1969 acreage guide for late summer plantings in Washington is a planted acreage 13 percent less than in 1968. This acreage, with an average yield, would result in a 1969 production 11 percent less than in 1968.

For the 1969 fall crop in Washington, the guide recommendation is a planted acreage 14 percent less than in 1968. An average yield on the guide acreage would result in a 1969 fall production in Washington 15 percent smaller than in 1968.

California: There have been successive decreases in potato plantings in California in recent years. Although average yields continued high, total seasonal production declined in both 1967 and 1968. Total 1968 production in California, at 29.6 million hundredweight, was 11 percent less than in 1967. Although combined summer and fall production in 1968 was nearly a tenth less than a year earlier, less winter and late spring production accounted for about three-fourths of the decrease (Figure 22).

In spite of more overlapping supplies than in 1967, there was good market demand for early summer potatoes in California through early July. The 1968 season average price for California early summer potatoes was \$2.52, a fourth above the below-average level in 1967. Weaker markets in July and August, however, were reflected in a 1968 season average price moderately lower than in 1967 for California late summer production. Fall crop marketings from California benefited from an overall decrease in 1968 fall production in the West. For the season, prices averaged about 10 percent above the moderate level in 1967.

The 1969 acreage guide recommendation for California's early summer crop is a planted acreage equal to 1968. With an average yield, 1969 early summer production would be slightly larger than a year earlier.

The acreage guide for the 1969 late summer crop is a planted acreage 2 percent less than in 1968, and a 3 percent reduction from 1968 is recommended for fall plantings in California. With average yields per acre, the 1969 late summer production would be slightly below that in 1968, and fall production in 1969 would be 3 percent less.

Oregon: In 1968, both the planted acreage and average yield in Oregon were below the record-high levels in 1967. Total production in 1968 was 7 percent less than in 1967 (see Figure 23). The reduction in output was concentrated in Malheur County, where much of the crop is used by processors. "Other" areas, including Klamath County and central Oregon, produced a total crop about a tenth larger than in 1967.

CALIFORNIA POTATOES

Seasonal Production

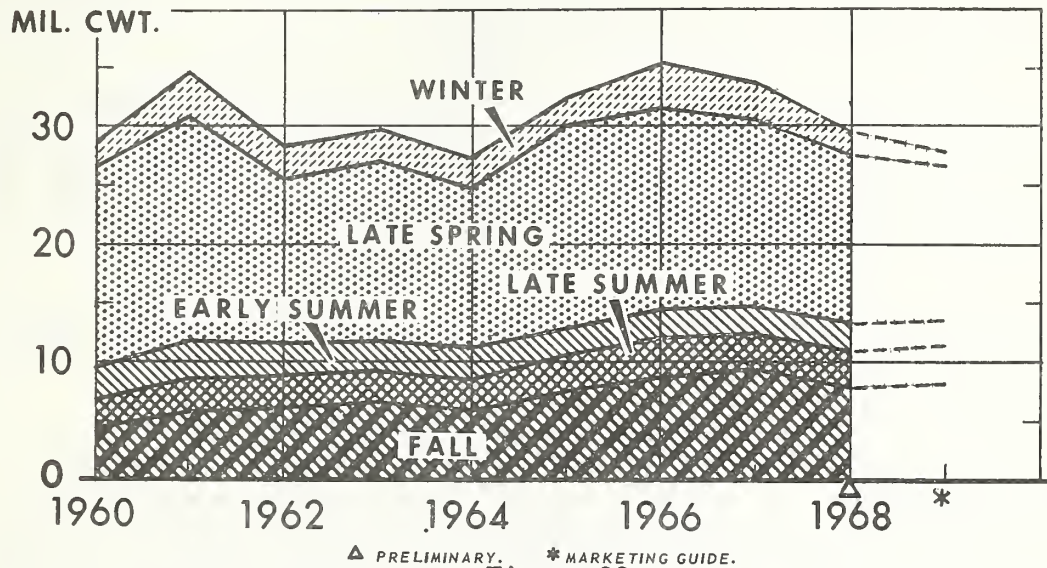


Figure 22

OREGON POTATOES

Production and Price

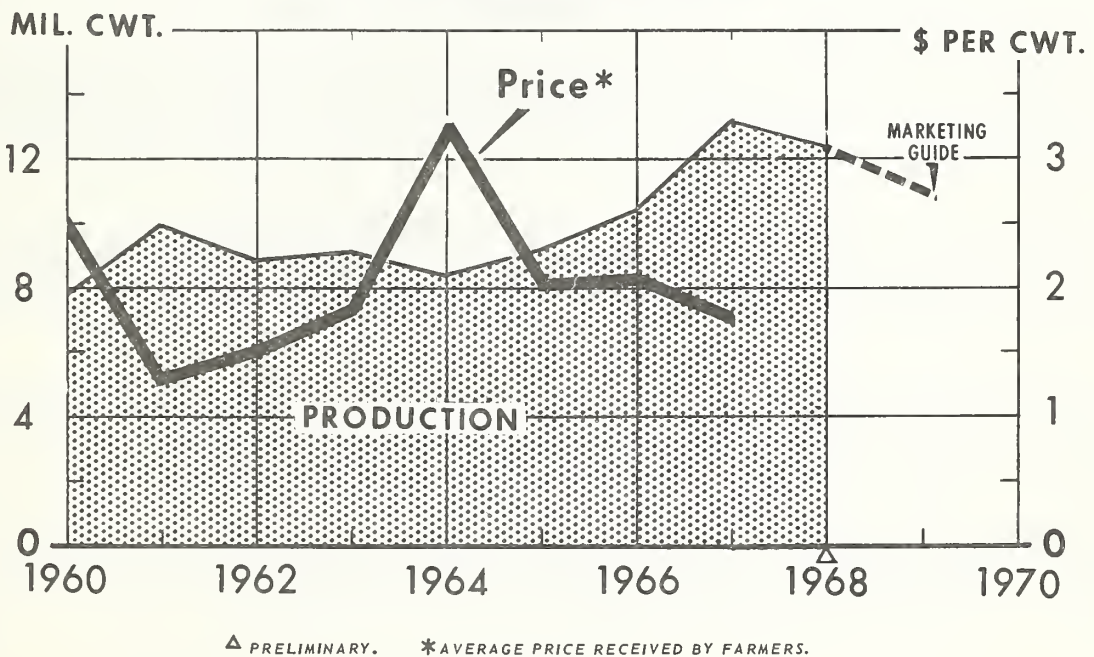


Figure 23

VII. STATE SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

In the 1968-69 season, shipments to fresh market outlets lagged behind those in 1967-68. In mid-winter, cumulative volume from the Klamath Basin was 14 percent less than the previous season. Total shipments for the 1968-69 season through early April were about a tenth less than in the comparable 1967-68 period. In addition, substantial quantities of 1968 crop Oregon potatoes were processed into food products and starch.

Because of the improved balance between supplies and market demand in Oregon as well as throughout the West, prices received by Oregon growers for 1968 crop potatoes are averaging considerably higher than prices for the 1967 crop. The March 1969 average price of \$2.45 per hundredweight compared with \$1.50 per hundredweight in March 1968.

The 1969 planting guide for Malheur County is an acreage 6 percent less than in 1968. For Oregon "other counties", the 1969 guide is a planted acreage 15 percent less than in 1968.

Colorado: The total 1968 potato acreage in Colorado was moderately larger than in 1967. There was an 11 percent increase in plantings in the Greeley area of northern Colorado, where much of the crop is grown for chipping. In addition, the fall acreage in the San Luis Valley, which accounts for 70-75 percent of the State's production, was up moderately from 1967. The late summer average yield continued to trend upward, reaching a record high in 1968. Total 1968 late summer production was 37 percent more than in 1967. However, cool weather in September restricted yields in the San Luis Valley, and Colorado's fall crop was 16 percent below 1967 (Figure 24).

In 1967-68, about two-thirds of the San Luis Valley crop was shipped to fresh market outlets. Through mid-April of the 1968-69 season, the cumulative total shipped was a tenth less than in the year earlier period because of a smaller quantity of "Reds."

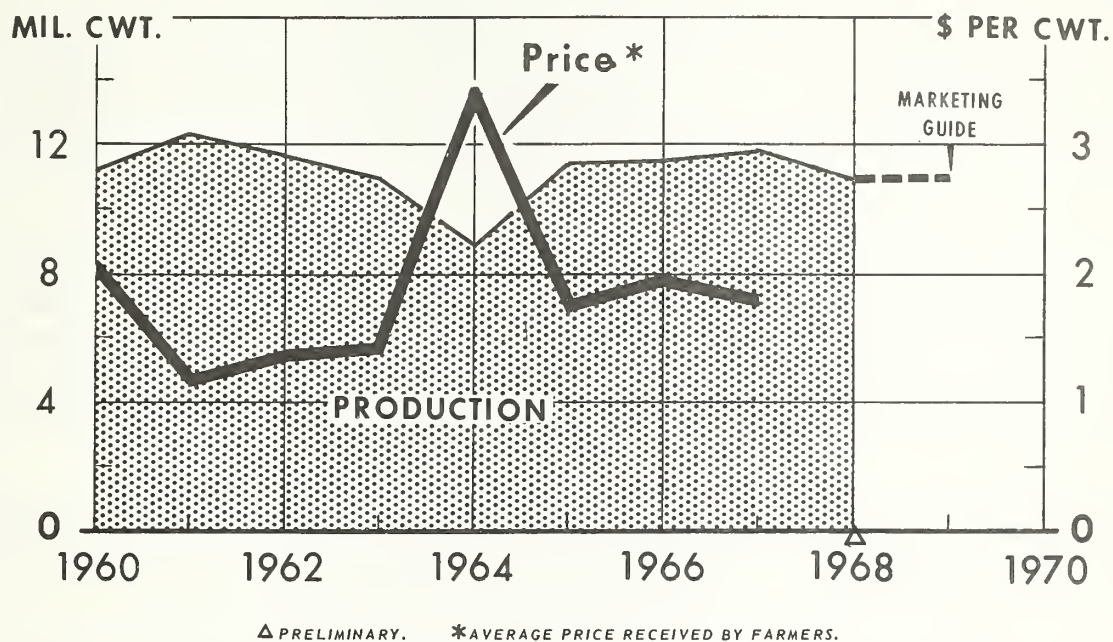
Demand for 1968 crop Russets in Colorado has been fairly good. But partly because of competitive supplies in other areas, buyer interest in the red varieties has been only fair. Colorado grower prices in 1968-69 are averaging below a year earlier.

The 1969 acreage guide for late summer potatoes in Colorado is a planted acreage 15 percent less than in 1968. With an average yield per acre, the resulting production would be 16 percent less than a year earlier.

In 1969, fall plantings 13 percent less than in 1968 are recommended in Colorado. Such an acreage, with an average yield, would result in a 1969 production 7 percent more than in 1968.

COLORADO POTATOES

Production and Price



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Figure 24

VII. STATE SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

Minnesota and North Dakota (Red River Valley): Following below average prices for 1967 crop potatoes, the 1968 acreage planted in the Red River Valley was moderately less than in 1967. The 1968 acreage for fall harvest in Minnesota, 70 percent of which is in the "Valley," was slightly less than in 1967, and plantings in North Dakota were down a tenth from 1967. However, the 1968 crop developed favorably. Per-acre yields in both States in 1968 were well above the moderate levels in 1967. Total production in Minnesota in 1968, at 13.9 million hundredweight, was slightly above 1967. Fall production in North Dakota in 1968 was a tenth more than a year earlier (Figures 25, 26).

Major outlets for the Red River Valley crop include interstate fresh table and chip markets as well as intrastate food processors. Also, close to a third of the crop is grown for the seed market. In early January, severe cold weather interrupted the movement of supplies to these outlets. However, by early April, cumulative fresh market and seed shipments totaled about the same as in the previous season. Moreover, processors continued active into the spring.

In the fall of 1968, prices received by Valley growers averaged close to the low levels in 1967. But prices improved in early 1969 and returns for the 1968 crop are expected to average moderately higher than those for the 1967 crop.

The 1969 guide for late summer plantings in Minnesota is 6,720 acres, 10 percent less than in 1968. If an average yield is obtained, 1969 production would be down 10 percent from 1968.

The 1969 guide recommendation for fall potatoes in Minnesota is a planted acreage 2 percent less than in 1968. With an average yield per acre, such an acreage would result in a moderately smaller production as compared with 1968. In North Dakota, the 1969 guide recommends a reduction of 3 percent in fall plantings as compared with the acreage planted in 1968. An average yield from this acreage would result in a 1969 production 8 percent less than in 1968 in North Dakota.

MINNESOTA POTATOES

Production and Price

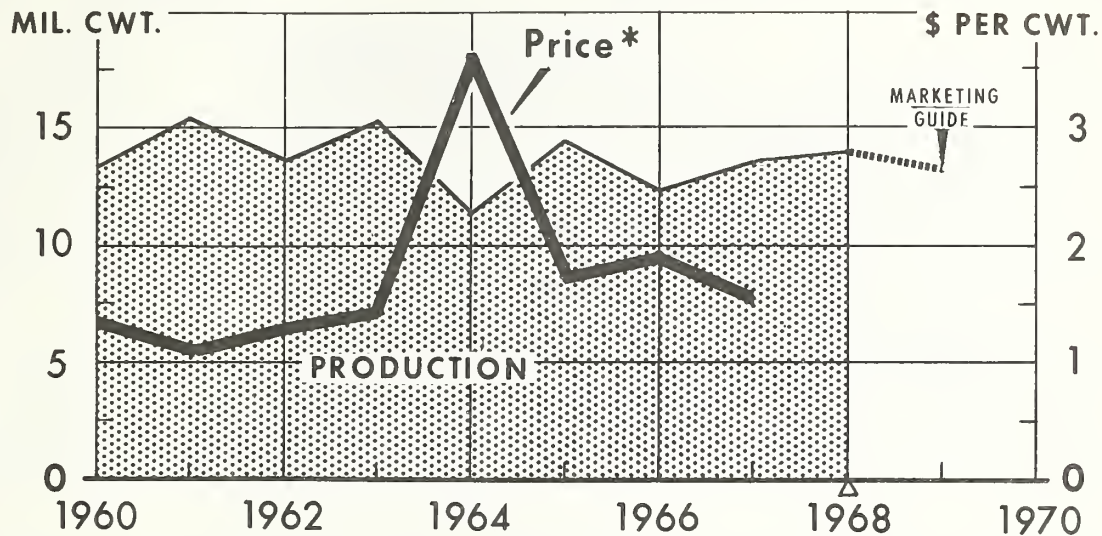


Figure 25

NORTH DAKOTA POTATOES

Production and Price

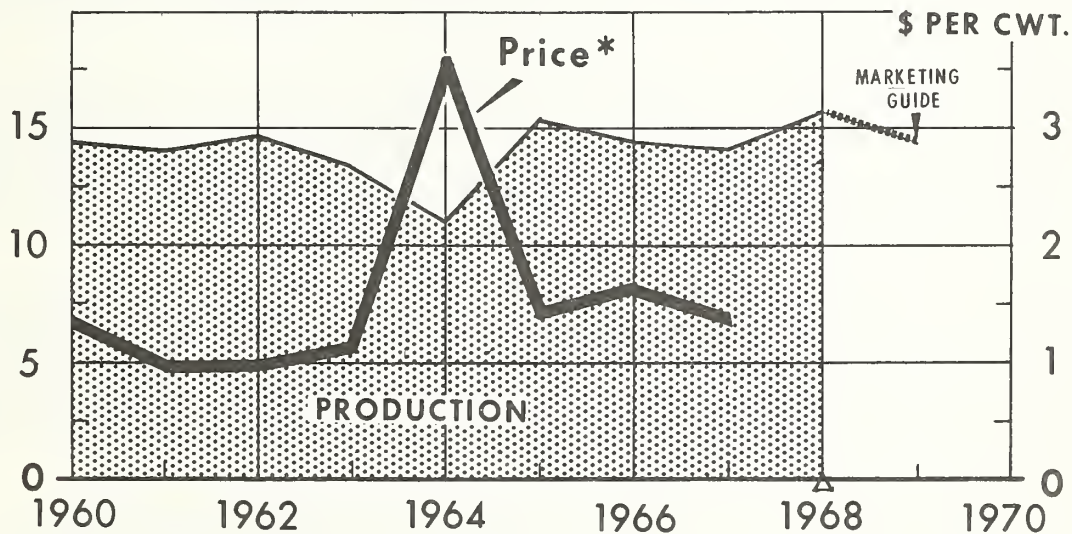


Figure 26

△ PRELIMINARY. * AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS.

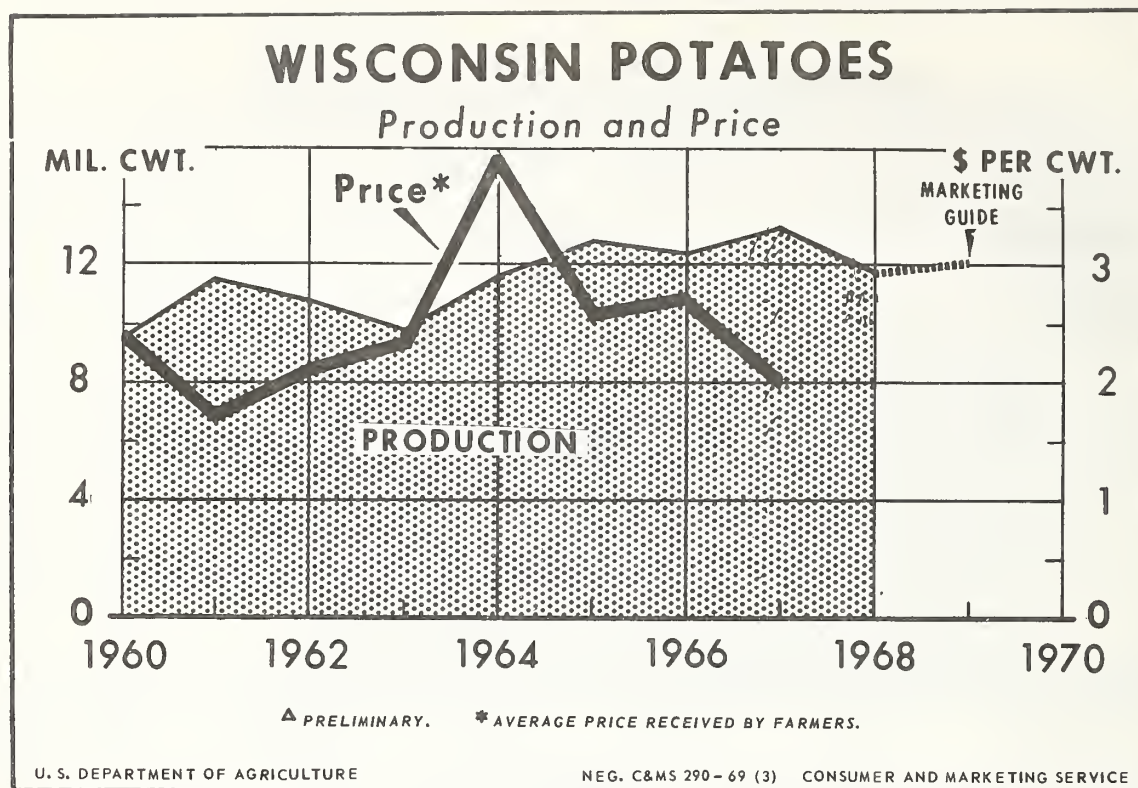


Figure 27

STATE SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

Wisconsin: The 1968 planted acreage in Wisconsin was moderately less than in 1967. In addition, average yields in the late summer and fall were below the record levels in 1967. Total production in 1968 was 5 percent less than in 1967 (Figure 27).

Shipments of Wisconsin potatoes to fresh market outlets, consisting of Russet Burbanks and round varieties, moved at a good pace in the 1968-69 season. Through early April 1969, cumulative table and seed shipments were about equal to those in the 1967-68 season. Processing is also an important outlet with about a fourth of the crop being used for chipping and canning.

Because of the smaller crop in Wisconsin and in several surrounding States as well as in the western States, there was an improved balance in markets as compared with 1967. In November and December of 1968, grower prices in Wisconsin averaged substantially higher than in 1967. Moreover, prices advanced moderately in early 1969; the average price for March 1969 of \$3.20 per hundred-weight compared with \$1.80 in March 1968.

The 1969 guide for Wisconsin is a late summer acreage 1 percent less than in 1968 and a fall acreage equal to 1968. Such acreages, with average yields, will result in 1969 late summer and fall crops slightly larger than in 1968.

VII. STATE SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

New York: Total plantings of potatoes in New York in 1968 were 11 percent less than the previous record low in 1967. The acreage is about evenly divided between Upstate areas and Long Island. In 1968, both regions contributed equally to the decrease in acreage. Although high yields on Long Island resulted in an average yield for the State above 1967, total 1968 production was down slightly from a year earlier (see Figure 28).

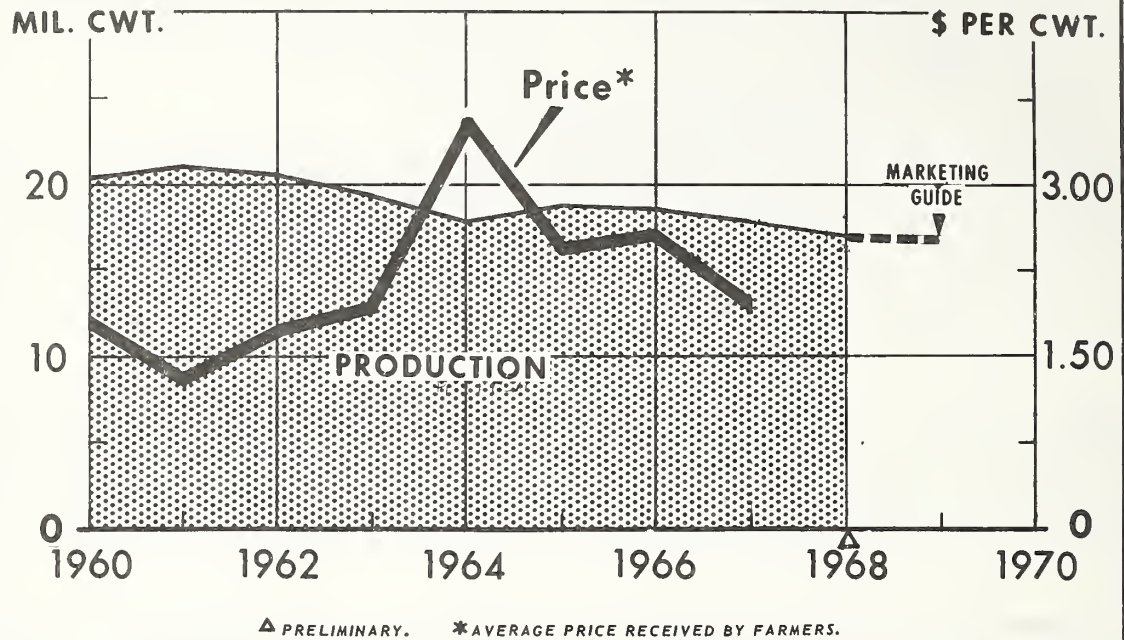
Upstate New York: In addition to the smaller acreage, dry weather limited yields in Upstate New York in 1968, and production was nearly a tenth less than in 1967. In the 1968-69 season, the Upstate crop moved out of storages to fresh market outlets and to chippers at prices well above the low levels a year earlier. The 1969 guide for Upstate New York is a planted acreage equal to 1968. Such an acreage, with an average yield, will result in a 1969 production about equal to 1968.

Long Island: The 1968 acreage of potatoes on Long Island was 11 percent less than in 1967. There was less acreage than a year earlier for both late summer and fall harvest; most of the acreage decline over the past decade has been in the late summer. Improved weather contributed to a high average yield in 1968. The 1968 late summer production was a tenth more than in 1967, and fall production was up slightly.

Although fresh market demand has been generally slow, cumulative 1968-69 season shipments from Long Island through early April 1969 were about the same as in the previous season. Moreover, prices have averaged much higher than in the 1967-68 season. In 1969, planted acreages equal to 1968 are recommended for both the late summer and fall crops on Long Island. Such acreages, with average yields, would result in a late summer production 4 percent less than in 1968, and a fall production 3 percent less.

NEW YORK POTATOES

Production and Price



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Figure 28

VII. STATE SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

Maine: Total 1968 plantings of potatoes in Maine were 4 percent less than the relatively large acreage in 1967. The total 1968 production, at 36.9 million hundredweight, was only slightly less than in 1967 (Figure 29). Maine's production accounts for about three-fifths of the total fall potato production in the eastern States, and 17 percent of the U. S. fall crop.

During the 1967-68 season, fresh market and seed shipments of Maine potatoes totaled almost 28,000 carlot equivalents, substantially less than in the previous season. Of this quantity, 6,400 carlots were seed potatoes, about equal to the total a year earlier. The total quantity of 1967 crop Maine potatoes processed into food products (mostly frozen french fried potatoes) was 8.8 million hundredweight compared with 9.3 million from the 1966 crop. Use of 1967 crop Maine potatoes for starch manufacture amounted to 4.6 million hundredweight which compared with 2.6 million in 1966.

Through the early winter of 1968-69, Maine shipments lagged behind the year-earlier total. But shipments were comparatively heavy during March, and by early April 1969, the cumulative total of shipments was only moderately smaller than in the previous season.

Prices received by Maine growers for 1968 crop potatoes have showed a slight seasonal increase. The 1968 average price is estimated at \$1.70 per hundredweight compared with \$1.36 in 1967.

The 1969 acreage guide for Maine is a planted acreage 3 percent less than in 1968. Such an acreage, with average yield, will result in a 1969 production 3 percent less than in 1968.

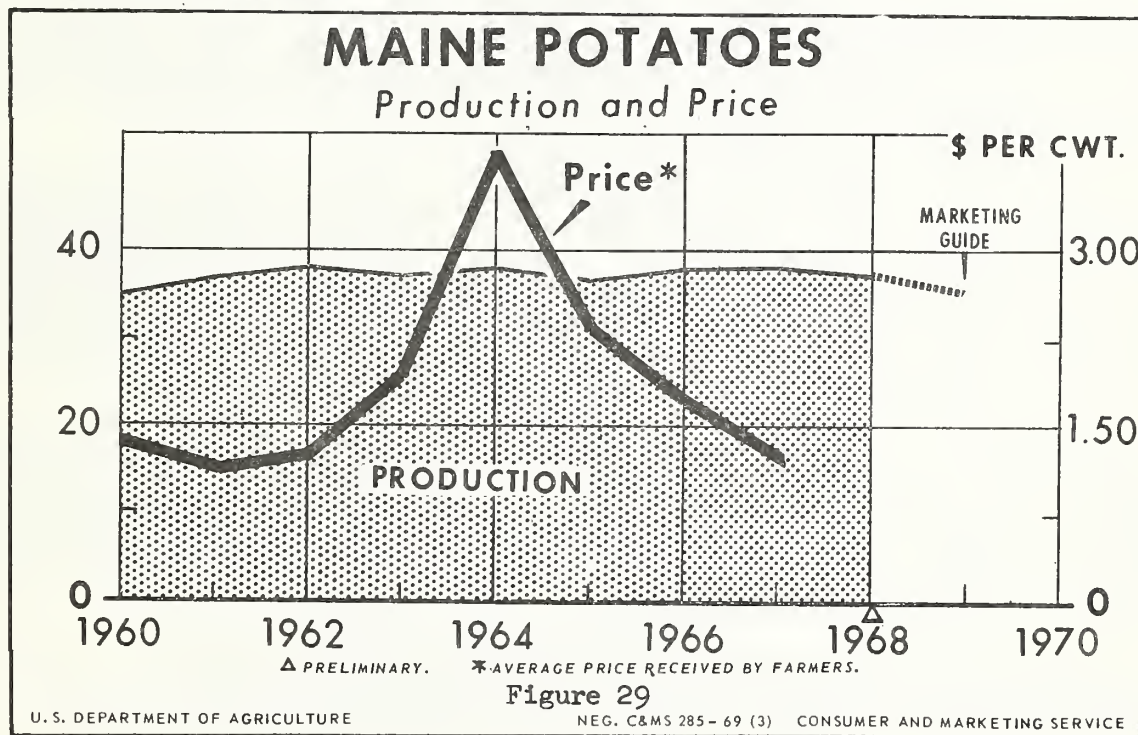


Table 5 .Foreign Trade in Fresh Potatoes

Year beginning September 15	Imports	Exports
	<u>1,000 cwt.</u>	
1960-61	716.7	2,415.8
1961-62	885.2	1,963.1
1962-63	893.6	3,513.1
1963-64	1,583.7	1,511.3
1964-65	3,441.3	1,653.4
1965-66	1,121.8	3,116.8
1966-67	2,749.6	2,565.1
1967-68	1,240.4	3,492.8
1968-69 (through Jan.)	1,161.6	243.4

Note: Duty of 37.5 cents per hundredweight applicable each quota year to 114 million pounds of certified seed plus 45 million pounds of "other" potatoes. When these quotas are filled, the duty increases to 75 cents.

Foreign trade in fresh potatoes usually amounts to less than 2 percent of the United States production. Canada provides practically all of the imports of seed and tablestock, and is the principal destination for U. S. exports, accounting for more than ninety percent of export volume in most years. Fresh potatoes are also exported to some Latin American countries and the West Indies.

Table 5 shows that in several recent quota years, exports of fresh potatoes far exceeded imports. Aside from 1964-65, when U. S. prices were extremely high, net imports were small relative to the favorable trade balance in other seasons, which ranged from about one million hundredweight in 1961-62 to 2.6 million hundredweight in 1962-63.

Because of the improved balance between fall crop production and domestic market requirements, the U. S. trade position in potatoes during 1968-69 differs substantially from that in most seasons. Exports of 1968 crop fresh potatoes through January 1969 amounted to 273,200 hundredweight compared with 243,300 through January 1968. As a result of higher prices in the U. S. and a large 1968 crop in Canada, cumulative imports this season through January 1969 were 1,161,600 hundredweight compared with 623,700 through January 1968.

During the fall of 1968, relatively large quantities of tablestock potatoes moved into this country from Canada. The U. S. duty on these "other" potatoes increased to 75 cents per hundredweight in December 1968, when the accumulative total for the season reached 45 million pounds. However, certified seed imports continued in volume at the low duty rate of 37.5 cents per hundredweight until the quota was filled late in March 1969.

In addition to fresh potatoes, 21.6 million pounds of dehydrated potatoes were exported during calendar year 1968. This compared with 16.8 million pounds in 1967.

Potatoes: Utilization of 1956-67 Crops

Utilization items	Crop year										
	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966 : 1967
	----- 1,000 cwt. -----										
Fresh Food:											
Tablestock	146,048	148,408	148,868	148,497	149,002	153,594	149,710	146,981	129,513	139,542	133,856
On Farm	9,312	8,176	7,279	5,913	5,310	4,773	3,955	3,400	2,776	2,597	2,378
Subtotal	153,360	156,584	156,147	154,410	154,312	158,367	153,665	150,381	132,289	142,139	136,234
Processed Food:											
Chips, etc.	14,566	17,356	17,063	20,085	21,018	22,642	24,086	26,693	28,783	31,292	32,729
Dehydration	3,223	3,776	5,917	7,656	10,104	8,518	9,280	9,909	10,801	20,166	19,811
Frozen	4,675	4,827	8,263	9,918	15,042	18,138	18,400	22,425	23,654	37,302	39,631
Canned	2,283	2,606	2,864	2,447	2,809	2,775	2,926	3,240	3,201	3,348	3,386
Subtotal	24,747	28,565	34,107	40,106	48,973	52,073	54,692	62,267	66,439	92,108	95,557
(1) Total Food	180,107	185,149	190,254	194,516	203,285	210,440	208,357	212,648	198,728	234,247	231,791
(2) Starch, Flour	18,336	12,691	18,387	7,718	10,177	20,493	11,285	11,737	2,990	8,081	11,001
(3) Feed sales	7,675	8,950	18,918	6,607	5,348	20,340	7,913	10,103	5,587	5,797	8,440
Feed on farm	4,148	2,718	3,916	3,104	2,940	4,192	3,340	3,087	1,871	2,179	2,930
Total	11,823	11,668	22,834	9,711	8,288	24,532	11,253	13,190	7,458	7,976	11,370
(4) Seed sales	13,435	13,641	13,079	13,583	14,823	13,823	14,333	14,159	14,203	16,992	16,173
Seed on farm	6,752	7,577	7,086	7,093	7,560	7,191	5,955	5,911	7,363	6,510	8,113
Total	20,187	21,218	20,165	20,676	22,383	21,014	20,288	20,070	21,566	23,502	24,286
(5) Shrinkage, Loss	15,339	11,796	15,257	12,651	12,971	16,687	13,627	13,513	10,334	17,433	28,454
Total Production	245,792	242,522	266,897	245,272	257,104	293,166	264,810	271,158	241,076	291,169	306,902
											305,412

Source: Annual reports of the Statistical Reporting Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

Table 6

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Consumer and Marketing Service
Washington, D. C. 20250

- - -
Official Business



POSTAGE & FEES PAID
United States Department of Agriculture